

CLAIMS:

What is claimed is:

1. A method for obtaining rating data, comprising:
receiving a digital data transmission carrying at least one program (200);
identifying a home jurisdiction of a receiver that receives the digital data transmission (210);
determining whether rating data is provided in the digital data transmission for the at least one program for the home jurisdiction (220);
using the rating data for the at least one program for the home jurisdiction, if available, to determine whether to block display of the at least one program; and
if the rating data for the at least one program for the home jurisdiction is not available, using rating data that is provided in the digital data transmission for the at least one program for a foreign jurisdiction (230) to determine whether to block display of the at least one program.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein:
the using the rating data for the at least one program for the home jurisdiction comprises comparing the rating data for the at least one program for the home jurisdiction to a user-defined system rating (250).
3. The method of claim 1, wherein:
the using the rating data for the at least one program for the foreign jurisdiction comprises comparing the rating data for the at least one program for the foreign jurisdiction to a user-defined system rating (250).
4. The method of claim 1, wherein:
rating data for the at least one program for a plurality of foreign jurisdictions is available in the digital data transmission; and

the using the rating data for the at least one program for the foreign jurisdiction comprises using the highest of the rating data for the at least one program among the plurality of foreign jurisdictions (240).

5. The method of claim 1, wherein:
the home jurisdiction and the foreign jurisdiction are different countries.
6. The method of claim 1, wherein:
the identifying the home jurisdiction comprises receiving a user setting.
7. The method of claim 1, wherein:
the digital data transmission is provided according to a Digital Video Broadcasting standard.
8. The method of claim 1, wherein:
the digital data transmission comprises at least one of audio and video data.
9. The method of claim 1, wherein:
the digital data transmission is received at at least one of a television and a set-top box.
10. The method of claim 1, wherein:
the digital data transmission is provided in at least one of respective broadcasts, multicasts and streaming content.
11. The method of claim 1, wherein:
the rating data for the at least one program for the home jurisdiction and the foreign jurisdiction comprises an age-based rating.

12. A program storage device tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by a machine to perform a method for obtaining rating data, the method comprising:

- receiving a digital data transmission carrying at least one program (200);
- identifying a home jurisdiction of a receiver that receives the digital data transmission (210);
- determining whether rating data is provided in the digital data transmission for the at least one program for the home jurisdiction (220);
- using the rating data for the at least one program for the home jurisdiction, if available, to determine whether to block display of the at least one program; and
- if the rating data for the at least one program for the home jurisdiction is not available, using rating data that is provided in the digital data transmission for the at least one program for a foreign jurisdiction (230) to determine whether to block display of the at least one program.

13. A receiver, comprising:

- means for receiving (102) a digital data transmission carrying at least one program;
- means (103, 105) for identifying a home jurisdiction;
- means (103) for determining whether rating data is provided in the digital data transmission for the at least one program for the home jurisdiction (103);
- means (103) for using the rating data for the at least one program for the home jurisdiction, if available, to determine whether to block display of the at least one program; and
- means (103) for using rating data that is provided in the digital data transmission for the at least one program for a foreign jurisdiction to determine whether to block display of the at least one program, if the rating data for the at least one program for the home jurisdiction is not available.

14. A receiver, comprising:

- a tuner (102) for receiving a digital data transmission carrying at least one program;
- and

a control (103) associated with the tuner and configured to: (a) identify a home jurisdiction, (b) determine whether rating data is provided in the digital data transmission for the at least one program for the home jurisdiction, (c) use the rating data for the at least one program for the home jurisdiction, if available, to determine whether to block display of the at least one program, and (d) use rating data that is provided in the digital data transmission for the at least one program for a foreign jurisdiction to determine whether to block display of the at least one program, if the rating data for the at least one program for the home jurisdiction is not available.